

The Rochester Philatelic Association, Inc **HINGES & TONGS**

MEETINGS ARE HELD 2ND & 4TH THURSDAYS SEPT.-JUNE AT ST. PAULS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

TRADING & TALKING 7PM FORMAL PROGRAM 8PM

MAY

editor
Joseph K. Doles

1996

APS CIRCUITS

Ray Stone has informed me that he has two circuit sets on hand. He will be bringing only one set for each May meeting. May 9 and May 23.

MAY PROGRAMS

May 9 Computers and Stamp Collecting

Paul Gerwitz will speak to us about the many different kinds of computer software that can be used in our hobby. He'll speak briefly on scanner, word-processor and database programs. Paul will field questions.

May 23 APS Slide Program U.S. Glider Mail Flights by Simine Short

The 1920s, the early days of experimental mail-carrying flights, were a special time of daring innovation and keen competition, and gliders were among the aircraft tested. This program focuses on the special flight cancels and covers from those glider flights, which were immensely popular for a time.

Many covers are shown, as well as old photographs of aircraft and the pilots who guided them.

The program sums up with the space shuttle *Challenger* flight in 1983, which carries souvenir mail.

June 13 Annual Business Meeting and Election of officers

June 27 Strawberry Festival & Danton Auction
(Your donated lots will benefit the RPA)

Remember: Your trash could be someone else's treasure! (Only GOOD trash, please)

FROM THE ROVING REPORTER

Assigned by your editor, Joe Doles, this Roving Reporter interviewed a few members at random at ROPEX.

Ann Triggles

Ann Triggles, a member of both RPA since 1985, and the Buffalo Stamp Club, lives in Clarence, N.Y. She serves as chairman of the judges for ROPEX; not a small task, considering there are five judges and two apprentice judges at our show. She does the initial contact, arranges for their participation, then prepares a voluminous booklet for each one, which contains judging criteria, and specifications for the different special awards which are given at the show.

We talked about her newest philatelic "job" - awards coordinator for Pacific 97, slated for May 29 to June 8, 1997 in San Francisco. "How did you get to be awards coordinator?" "Probably because I am APS awards committee chairman," she said. She took on the responsibility two years ago and is busy working with a committee of 3 or 4 volunteers to arrange for all the medals and special prizes to be given at the World Philatelic Exhibition next year.

She and her committee have designed, and are having made, medals for nine levels of awards: Large and Small Gold, Large and Small Vermeil, Large and Small Silver, Silver-Bronze, Bronze and Certificate. The medals are slightly oval-shaped and are made ahead, each with an exhibitor's name on it. The medals have a small cut-out depression into which will be dropped a nugget made of the appropriate metal (gold, silver, etc) which the exhibitor has been awarded.

The special prizes, given by various organizations and federations at the judges' discretion, will probably number 70 or more, and have to be coordinated by Ann's committee. And the medals, going to exhibitors filling nearly 4000 frames, will likely count up to more than 400.

(Ann Triggles, cont'd)

"How do you and your committee get together?" "Mostly by phone and FAX," she replied, "although we will probably have a meeting at Stampshow in August." Members are from Washington, DC, Indiana and Ohio.

"Do you get paid?" we asked. She laughed! "Maybe a few expenses, but it is essentially volunteer work."

So if we don't see Ann at too many RPA meetings, we'll understand - she's rather busy.

Karen and Duncan Barber

Our only international members, who joined RPA in 1994, Karen (Coughlin) and Duncan Barber have a particular interest in ROPEX -- this is where the two met a few years ago, then later married. They return each year, often as exhibitors; but as members, they can be seen helping out in a variety of ways -- assisting with putting up exhibits, working at the hospitality table, among others.

They recently moved to Mississauga, about 70 miles outside of Lewiston, Canada. Coming to ROPEX is about a three-hour drive for them.

"No exhibits this year?" "No," Karen told us. "Duncan has been working on his Master's Degree from the University of Toronto, and that has taken up a great deal of his time." In addition, Duncan works as a civil engineer for the Ontario heat and light. His particular philatelic interests include ships and the British Machine heads of Queen Elizabeth.

Karen, who has shown her King Arthur exhibit here, has moved on to castles, and early Christian religion on stamps.

Both Karen and Duncan are interested in music and sing in a local choir.

This year's ROPEX was special, too: Karen celebrated her birthday on Friday, at a birthday dinner attended by friends and family - who included her brother Ray Coughlin, stamp dealer from Washington, who she hadn't seen in two years.

L. Kelly Armstrong, Jr.

We found Kelly pouring over covers at first one then another dealer's table at ROPEX. "What are you looking for?"

"Flag cancels on ship covers," he said. He explained: Not only for himself, he also searches for Naval covers for two "stamp pals" he corresponds with, one from Belgium and one from France.

He became acquainted with the collector from Belgium when he was seeking covers from ships in the Gulf War. His letter to one of the ships was turned over to a seaman from Belgium

(another stamp collector), and they have been writing and exchanging covers ever since.

The French collector got involved when he corresponded with the one from Belgium and "met" Kelly through him.

"It's an easy exchange," Kelly said. "No pressure; when one of us finds a cover of interest to one of the others, it's sent along with a letter. The recipient replies with thanks, and when he finds a good cover, the exchange continues."

Kelly exhibited his "Crisis in the Gulf" this year, earning a bronze for his work. But he doesn't come to ROPEX just for the exhibiting; The variety of dealers allows him more extensive searches for his material, and besides, he likes the company. He enjoys the sociability of meeting and chatting with RPA members, he said.

INTRODUCING DAVID ROEHRIG CANDIDATE FOR TREASURER

Hello, my name is David Roehrig, and I am asking for your support in my effort to become treasurer of the RPA.

First, a little about me. I am married with two children, ages 11 and 13 which are stamp collectors too. I currently live in Victor, NY, but was born and raised in the city of Rochester. I have been collecting stamps for thirty-five years.

My regular job for the past nineteen years has been Tool and Die Maker at Delco Products/ITT Automotive. During this time I attended evening classes at Rochester Institute of Technology. In 1995 I received my Bachelors Degree from the College of Business with Highest Honors and a major in Accounting.

Two years ago I started my own accounting practice, and hope to take the CPA exam soon. My business specializes in tax preparation, bookkeeping and accounting for small business. I feel that I have the background in stamp collecting and accounting necessary, and desire, to perform this job.

Next to collecting stamps there is nothing I enjoy more than number crunching.

Thank You;
David Roehrig

WHO WAS MOST POPULAR?

Each year at ROPEX, people attending are encouraged to vote for their favorite exhibit. This year they voted, and RPA's own junior member exhibit **"Gymnastics on Stamps" by Sara Gerwitz** was the winner! She will receive a plaque which says "Most Popular" with her name and the year on it. Her exhibit was a one-frame topical.

The award was started by the late Larry Moriarty who presented one each year to the exhibit voted the most popular. Even though Larry died in 1995, he already had made up the awards for 1995 and 1996. The club voted last year to continue the tradition in Larry's memory. (This is not to be confused with the LM Memorial Award which is given for special excellence in some area.)

When the most popular winner was announced at the end of ROPEX, if the winner were present, Larry would be on hand to present the plaque - and a kiss, if the winner was a lady!

So Sara will receive the Most Popular plaque, along with our love and kisses (real or imagined)! I'm sure Larry would approve.

OTHER VOTE-GETTERS FOR MOST POPULAR:

Several RPA members received votes for the "Most Popular" award. High vote-getters included:

Vacation in Spain - Donald Schurr
Woldenburg P.O.W. Camp - Ray Stone
Crisis in the Gulf - Kelly Armstrong
Readin', (w)Ritin', and Railroadin' - Norm Wright

Other votes went to:

A Watery School - Katherine Foor (youth)
The Magical World of Disney - Tori Wood (youth)
What's That Doing There? - William Hatton
Old MacDonald Had a Farm - William Waggoner

One voter was quite specific - it was a vote for "The sea stamp" on Frame #236. While another voted as most popular - "the kids' area."



The RPA is
Chapter
0207-019273
of the
American Philatelic
Society
PO Box 8000
State College, PA
168803

DUES ARE DUE

RPA Membership dues for the 1996-1997 year are due by July 1, 1996, and will be received any time by Florence Wright, membership chairman.

The cost is now \$15.00 according to a decision by the Board of Directors last fall.

We encourage members to get on the "band-wagon" started by Karen and Duncan Barber, who paid their next years dues in April (at ROPEX)!

Any members who have signed up two new members to RPA are entitled to have free dues the next year.

We're pleased to announce that these members will have their dues paid by swelling our membership rolls:

Chuck Schultz
Bernice Watson
Joe Doles
Tom Fortunato
John Kellas
Norm Wright

About Those Membership Cards: Yes, they are too wide for most wallets and card cases. Easy - just trim off about 1/8 inch from each side and the top, and they'll slide in easily.

NEW MEMBERS

RPA offers a membership special at ROPEX: sign up now, pay one year's dues, and get 15 months membership.

This year four people took advantage of the offer, and we are happy to welcome:

George W. Jusko, Mike Bradley,
and Douglas G. Pelton, all of Rochester; and
Albert Guenzburger of Guilford, NY.

THANKS TO MEMBERS

-- who responded to our appeal in the last *Hinges and Tongs* for donations to go toward the Larry Moriarty memorial plaque. The total amount received from donations overall is nearly enough to support the cost of the entire plaque and related expenses in producing it.

On behalf of the Rochester Philatelic Association, we thank all who contributed to this lasting memorial.

-- Norm and Florence Wright

THANK YOU!!!!

ROPEX was highly successful this year, thanks in large part to the very many RPA members who volunteered their time to work at the show. There are many, many jobs to be done to make the show run smoothly, and the show committee, no matter how dedicated, can't do it all. An enormous "THANK YOU" to all of you who came and worked-- YOU made it a good show!

I'd also like to give special thanks to the members of the ROPEX committee. Putting a show together is a continuing process--by the time you read this, the 1997 ROPEX committee will already be working under Chairman Ray Stone to plan for the March 1997 show. For all of you, a heartfelt thanks is little enough reward, but I know that having a successful show is the reward you value the most, and you achieved that. My deepest gratitude you have as well!

I wouldn't usually single out particular members of the committee for mention here, since all worked so very hard, but this year Joe Doles used a combination of ingenuity, creativity, and just plain work (at the end of a very long day at that!) to remedy a mistake that I had made, which almost kept the exhibit of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing from being on display at ROPEX. Without Joe the Bureau exhibit would not have been there for all of us to admire. Ray will eventually get the "Boss" hat; Joe deserves a "Hero" medal!

Ada M. Prill, ROPEX '96 Chair

CAPEX TRIP

June 8th

bus leaves Pittsford Plaza (near Community Savings Bank) at 5:30 AM
arrives Toronto 9:30 AM
leaves Toronto 5:30 PM
arrives back in Rochester at 9:30 PM

\$28⁰⁰ per person
does not include CAPEX Show pass at \$8.00 Canadian

The US first day ceremony for the prehistoric animals block of four will take place then. Anyone interested should contact John Kellas at McLeod's Stamp and Coin at (716) 244-0240.

ANYONE! ANYONE! ANYONE!

You don't have to collect stamps to go on this bus. Ask your non-collecting friends who want a Toronto shopping day for a good price. Let's fill the bus!

RPA MEMBERS WIN ROPEX AWARDS

Two RPA members won vermeil medals at ROPEX '96. RPA Past President Tom Fortunato was awarded a vermeil for his "Diversity of Ceramics and Ceramic Materials," which also won the American Topical Association First Place Medal and the Virginia Gubler Award, given for the best thematic exhibit by an RPA member. The vermeil award qualifies Tom's exhibit to compete at the international level and qualifies Tom to begin the arduous process of becoming an APS-accredited judge! (He is already a judge at the Federation level.)

The other vermeil award went to RPA Life Member Walter Orton (who's already a judge) for his exhibit entitled "A Compendium of Railroad Cancellations Applied to the Documentary 'Battleship' Revenue Stamps of 1898." Walt was also awarded the George LeFebvre Award (best non-thematic exhibit by an RPA member), as well as the prestigious American Philatelic Society Research Medal and the American Revenue Association Gold Award. Wow!

Ray Stone won two silver medals for "Croatian Overprints" and "Woldenburg P.O.W. Camp" and also put in a non-competitive exhibit of "Rochester Transportation Coils." Kelly Armstrong got a bronze medal for "Crisis in the Gulf." Sarah Gerwitz's exhibit "Gymnastics" got a bronze and the LRM Popularity Award (favorite exhibit by vote of the attending public). Norman Wright's delightful "Readin', (w)Ritin' & Railroadin'" was entered non-competitively. Congratulations to all!

RPA Torch Runner

Some 10,000 runners were selected by the Coca Cola Corporation to carry the Olympic Torch on its trek from Los Angeles to Atlanta. Among them will be RPA member Tom Fortunato. Runners were nominated by regional officials based on the candidate's community involvement.

The flame passes through Rochester on Wednesday, June 12, appropriately Flag Day. The actual route of that day's run will not be released until two weeks beforehand, but it is known that major stops that day will be in Niagara Falls, Rochester, Palmyra, Camillus and Syracuse. It's unknown if a common design pictorial postmark will be available along the way, but if so, "Torch Mail" may become a reality.

Our Roving Reporter has been Florence Wright

ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The following candidates for RPA office are hereby presented to the membership in accordance with the by-laws:

President- Paul Gerwitz
 Vice President- Tom Fortunato
 Recording Secretary- Don Schurr
 Treasurer- David Roehrig
 Corresponding Secretary- Joseph Doles
 Board of Governors (3 year term)- Norm Wright, Sr.

Non-Elected Positions:

Membership Chairperson- Florence Wright
 RPA Librarian- Joseph Doles

A ballot will be sent to all RPA members later in May in time to be returned in time for the June 13 business meeting.

Strawberries and...a Donation Auction!

Our last meeting of the year will not only feature the traditional strawberries but an all-donation auction as well. This is a great time to clean up your stamp room and donate unwanted stamps, kiloware, philatelic literature, etc. To the RPA. All proceeds will go to the club's treasury. Bring your donations to any RPA meeting along with a brief description of the lots and give them to auction chairman Bob Searjeant. The live auction will take place on Thursday, June 27, with viewing from 7-8 PM and the calling soon after. Note that there will not be a silent auction that evening.

ROPEX'96 Cancel a Rarity

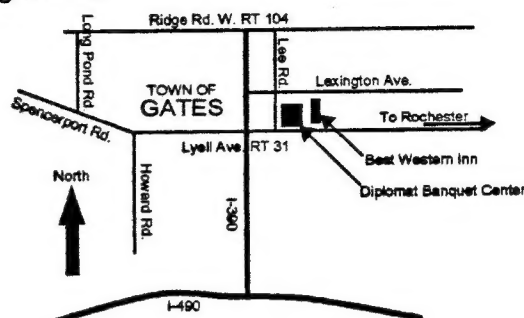
A front page article in the May 6 edition of Linn's Stamp News details the final USPS policy about Olympic related cancels: "The use of any Olympic mark is strictly prohibited." So states the March 28 Postal Bulletin.

The word "Olympics" or any of its derivatives are unacceptable, as are the Olympic symbols such as the rings, Atlanta Torch, US Olympic Committee's wreath, etc. Rochester's approved postmark may have sparked the USPS ruling. Our final design featured the Atlanta Torch, and was actually the second one sent in. The first, containing the rings and brief text, was rejected at the last minute.

This should make our cancel highly sought after by Olympic collectors. ROPEX'96 covers are still available on a first come basis. Contact Mark Kase at (716)381-1654 to order yours today at \$2 each or \$5 for the set of three. Orders will also be accepted by mail through our PO box. Make checks payable to ROPEX'96 and include a SASE for their return.

New ROPEX'97 Date and Site

ROPEX'97 will now be held at the Diplomat Banquet Center in Gates on March 7-9, 1997. The facility provides more than 50% more room for the event, with over 12,000 square feet of open area all on one floor. Additional rooms are available for meetings and the banquet. The center is next to the Best Western hotel, providing 100 guest rooms and 1,200 spaces of free parking for all.



"Hooker" Stamps

Now that the April 15 tax deadline is gone for another year, here's a revenue scheme you probably never heard of.

RPA member Ann Trigg of Buffalo is collecting an unusual set of Argentine revenues from the City of Rosario. Back at the turn of the century "ladies of the evening" were required to get regular health checkups. As a receipt, stamps needed to be purchased at the doctor's office before the testing which needed to be placed in small record books kept on their person. Healthy checkups were cancelled "sana." Non-conclusive results were marked "non-regla," with a second test needed a week or so later. Sick patients received the dreaded "inferma" overprint. Shown here are examples of the first two types on two separate issues.

By the way, the record books were very important to the ladies. Potential clients could demand to see them anytime before she "offered her honor."

ANNUAL RPA BANQUET

Saturday, June 1, 1996

Patchen - Briggs VFW POST 307

54 South Union Street

Cash Bar 6:30 PM

Dinner at 7:00 PM

Buffet Style

Chicken French

Beef Ajus

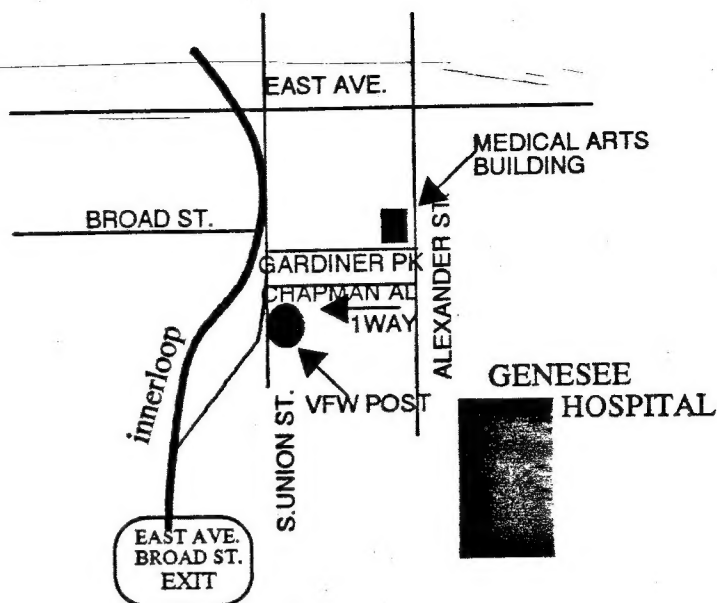
Vegetarian Stir Fry

\$10.00 per person

For reservations call 987-8454
please make checks out to the RPA
must have payment by the May 23 meeting

Annual Club Auction

Each person attending is allowed to bring 7
lots for the auction. Any lot descriptions must
be turned over to Joe Doles at the May 23
meeting if you want it printed in the hand out
at the auction. The Club receives 10% of the
hammered price from the seller.



Above is a map to find the Patchen-Briggs Post.
If you miss it getting off the innerloop just continue
to Gardiner Pk and go around the block to
Alexander St and turn down Chapman Al. Plenty of
free parking behind the Post off Chapman.

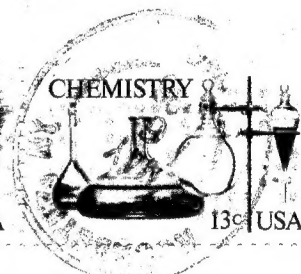
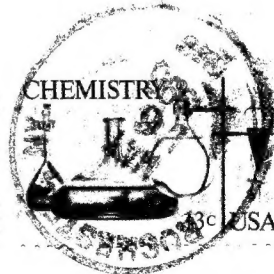
HINGES & TONGS

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